

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 MOSCOW 00833 181510Z

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

-----043729 181512Z /50

O 181405Z JAN 78

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 6831

S E C R E T MOSCOW 0833

NODIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PINT, UR, US

SUBJECT: PNG OF DONALD KURSCH

REF: (A) STATE 11051, (B) MOSCOW 753

1. AT 1530 HOURS JANUARY 18 POLCOUNSELOR CALLED ON DEPUTY CHIEF OF MFA'S USA DIVISION FEDOSEYEV TO PROTEST RECENT PHOTOGRAPHIC HARASSMENT OF AN EMBASSY OFFICER. (SEPTTEL)

2. WHEN THAT CONVERSATION FINISHED FEDOSEYEV ASKED WHETHER KURSCH HAD DEPARTED. POLCOUNSELOR REPLIED HE HAD NOT. FEDOSEYEV ASKED WHETHER KURSCH WAS PLANNING TO LEAVE IMMEDIATELY. POLCOUNSELOR REPLIED THAT UNDER THE CIRCUMSTANCES HE WAS NOT IN A POSITION TO ANSWER THAT QUESTION.

3. FEDOSEYEV SAID HE WAS INSTRUCTED TO STATE THAT "WE EXPECT HIM TO LEAVE AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, IF NOT IN TWENTY-FOUR HOURS THEN IN FORTY-EIGHT." POLCOUNSELOR ASKED WHETHER THE MFA HAD TAKEN INTO ACCOUNT NOT ONLY THE JANUARY 14 DISCUSSION BETWEEN SECRETARY VANCE AND DOBRYNIN BUT ALSO THE SUBSEQUENT CONVERSATION BETWEEN AMBASSADOR SHULMAN AND VASEV, IN WHICH LATER CONVERSATION THE POSSIBILITY WAS RAISED OF PRESENTING FURTHER EVIDENCE ON THE ACTIVITIES OF AVDYUNIN. FEDOSEYEV REPLYING IN THE AFFIRMATIVE, SAID THE TWO CASES HAD  
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NO CONNECTION AND STATED THAT THE SOVIET DECISION TO DECLARE KURSCH PERSONNA NON GRATA WAS IRREVERSIBLE, "REGARDLESS OF THE OUTCOME IN WASHINGTON, EVIDENCE OR NO EVIDENCE."

4. POLCOUNSELOR SAID THAT IN VIEW OF THE EXTENDED DISCUSSIONS WHICH HAD BEEN HELD AT HIGH LEVELS IN WASHINGTON HE WOULD COMMENT ONLY BRIEFLY: (A) KURSCH WAS COMPLETELY INNOCENT OF THE

SOVIET ACCUSATIONS MADE AGAINST HIM WHICH WERE UNFOUNDED,  
BASELESS AND TOTALLY UNWARRANTED AND (B) WE CONSIDER THE  
SOVIET ACTION TAKEN AGAINST KURSCH TO BE OUTRAGEOUS.

5. WE ARE PROCEEDING TO ARRANGE FOR KURSCH TO TRAVEL TO  
FRANKFURT JANUARY 20 ACCORDING TO ARRANGEMENTS DESCRIBED IN  
PARA 4, MOSCOW 753. FURTHER COMMENT WILL FOLLOW SEPTTEL.  
MATLOCK

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
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